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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
90/006,493	12/26/2002	5819172		9467

803 7590 08/22/2006

STURM & FIX LLP
206 SIXTH AVENUE
SUITE 1213
DES MOINES, IA 50309-4076

EXAMINER

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

DATE MAILED: 08/22/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.



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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
90/007,735	09/28/2005	5819172	6082.003	2498

803 7590 08/22/2006

STURM & FIX LLP
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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
90/006,680	06/24/2003	5819172		5439

803 7590 08/22/2006

STURM & FIX LLP
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DES MOINES, IA 50309-4076

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NOVAK DRUCE & QUIGG, LLP
1300 EYE STREET NW
400 EAST TOWER
WASHINGTON, DC 20005

EX PARTE REEXAMINATION COMMUNICATION TRANSMITTAL FORM

REEXAMINATION CONTROL NO. 90/006,493, 90/006,680, 90/007,735.

PATENT NO. 5819172.

ART UNIT 3992.

Enclosed is a copy of the latest communication from the United States Patent and Trademark Office in the above identified *ex parte* reexamination proceeding (37 CFR 1.550(f)).

Where this copy is supplied after the reply by requester, 37 CFR 1.535, or the time for filing a reply has passed, no submission on behalf of the *ex parte* reexamination requester will be acknowledged or considered (37 CFR 1.550(g)).

Office Action in Ex Parte Reexamination	Control No. 90/006493 90/006680 90/007735	Patent Under Reexamination 5819172	
	Examiner Roland G. Foster	Art Unit 3992	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

- a ☒ Responsive to the communication(s) filed on February 06, 2006. b ☒ This action is made FINAL.
c ☐ A statement under 37 CFR 1.530 has not been received from the patent owner.

A shortened statutory period for response to this action is set to expire 2 month(s) from the mailing date of this letter. Failure to respond within the period for response will result in termination of the proceeding and issuance of an *ex parte* reexamination certificate in accordance with this action. 37 CFR 1.550(d). **EXTENSIONS OF TIME ARE GOVERNED BY 37 CFR 1.550(c).** If the period for response specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a response within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.

Part I THE FOLLOWING ATTACHMENT(S) ARE PART OF THIS ACTION:

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited by Examiner, PTO-892. 3. ☐ Interview Summary, PTO-474.
2. ☒ Information Disclosure Statement, PTO-1449. 4. ☐ _____.

Part II SUMMARY OF ACTION

- 1a. ☒ Claims 1-223 and 295-317 are subject to reexamination.
1b. ☐ Claims _____ are not subject to reexamination.
2. ☐ Claims _____ have been canceled in the present reexamination proceeding.
3. ☐ Claims _____ are patentable and/or confirmed.
4. ☒ Claims 1-223 and 295-317 are rejected.
5. ☐ Claims _____ are objected to.
6. ☒ The drawings, filed on 03 December 1999 are acceptable.
7. ☐ The proposed drawing correction, filed on _____ has been (7a) ☐ approved (7b) ☐ disapproved.
8. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of the priority claim under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the certified copies have
1 ☐ been received.
2 ☐ not been received.
3 ☐ been filed in Application No. _____.
4 ☐ been filed in reexamination Control No. _____.
5 ☐ been received by the International Bureau in PCT application No. _____.
* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
9. ☐ Since the proceeding appears to be in condition for issuance of an *ex parte* reexamination certificate except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte* Quayle, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.
10. ☐ Other: _____

cc: Requester (if third party requester)



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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
90/006,491	12/26/2002	5625670		9464

803 7590 08/22/2006

STURM & FIX LLP

206 SIXTH AVENUE

SUITE 1213

DES MOINES, IA 50309-4076

EXAMINER

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

DATE MAILED: 08/22/2006

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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
90/006,678	06/24/2003	5625670		5441

803 7590 08/22/2006

STURM & FIX LLP
206 SIXTH AVENUE
SUITE 1213
DES MOINES, IA 50309-4076

EXAMINER

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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
90/007,723	09/16/2005	5625670	6082.003	5019

803 7590 08/22/2006

STURM & FIX LLP
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SUITE 1213
DES MOINES, IA 50309-4076

EXAMINER

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PAPER NUMBER

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8/22/06

NOVAK DRUCE & QUIGG, LLP
1300 EYE STREET NW
400 EAST TOWER
WASHINGTON, DC 20005

EX PARTE REEXAMINATION COMMUNICATION TRANSMITTAL FORM

REEXAMINATION CONTROL NO 90/006678
PATENT NO. 5,625,670
ART UNI 3992

Enclosed is a copy of the latest communication from the United States Patent and Trademark Office in the above identified ex parte reexamination proceeding (37 CFR 1.550(f)).

Where this copy is supplied after the reply by requester, 37 CFR 1.535, or the time for filing a reply has passed, no submission on behalf of the ex parte reexamination requester will be acknowledged or considered (37 CFR 1.550(g)).



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EX PARTE REEXAMINATION COMMUNICATION TRANSMITTAL FORM

REEXAMINATION CONTROL NO. 90/006,678.

PATENT NO. 5625670.

90/006,491
90/007,723

ART UNIT 3992.

Enclosed is a copy of the latest communication from the United States Patent and Trademark Office in the above identified *ex parte* reexamination proceeding (37 CFR 1.550(f)).

Where this copy is supplied after the reply by requester, 37 CFR 1.535, or the time for filing a reply has passed, no submission on behalf of the *ex parte* reexamination requester will be acknowledged or considered (37 CFR 1.550(g)).

Office Action in Ex Parte Reexamination

Control No.

90/006,678

90/006,491

90/007,723

Patent Under Reexamination

5625670

Examiner

Charles R. Craver

Art Unit

3992

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

- a ☒ Responsive to the communication(s) filed on 14 February 2006 5/22/06 b ☒ This action is made FINAL.
 c ☐ A statement under 37 CFR 1.530 has not been received from the patent owner.

A shortened statutory period for response to this action is set to expire 2 month(s) from the mailing date of this letter. Failure to respond within the period for response will result in termination of the proceeding and issuance of an *ex parte* reexamination certificate in accordance with this action. 37 CFR 1.550(d). **EXTENSIONS OF TIME ARE GOVERNED BY 37 CFR 1.550(c).** If the period for response specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a response within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.

Part I THE FOLLOWING ATTACHMENT(S) ARE PART OF THIS ACTION:

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited by Examiner, PTO-892. 3. ☐ Interview Summary, PTO-474.
 2. ☒ Information Disclosure Statement, PTO-1449. 4. ☐ _____.

Part II SUMMARY OF ACTION

- 1a. ☒ Claims 1-276 and 555-606 are subject to reexamination.
 1b. ☐ Claims _____ are not subject to reexamination.
 2. ☐ Claims _____ have been canceled in the present reexamination proceeding.
 3. ☐ Claims _____ are patentable and/or confirmed.
 4. ☒ Claims 1-276 and 555-606 are rejected.
 5. ☐ Claims _____ are objected to.
 6. ☐ The drawings, filed on _____ are acceptable.
 7. ☐ The proposed drawing correction, filed on _____ has been (7a) ☐ approved (7b) ☐ disapproved.
 8. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of the priority claim under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the certified copies have
 1 ☐ been received.
 2 ☐ not been received.
 3 ☐ been filed in Application No. _____.
 4 ☐ been filed in reexamination Control No. _____.
 5 ☐ been received by the International Bureau in PCT application No. _____.

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

9. ☐ Since the proceeding appears to be in condition for issuance of an *ex parte* reexamination certificate except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte* Quayle, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.
 10. ☐ Other: _____

cc: Requester (if third party requester)



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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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90/006,676

06/24/2003

5438611

5438

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7590

08/22/2006

STURM & FIX LLP

206 SIXTH AVENUE

SUITE 1213

DES MOINES, IA 50309-4076

EXAMINER

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

DATE MAILED: 08/22/2006

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8/22/06

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NOVAK DRUCE & QUIGG, LLP

1300 EYE STREET NW

400 EAST TOWER

WASHINGTON, DC 20005

EX PARTE REEXAMINATION COMMUNICATION TRANSMITTAL FORM

REEXAMINATION CONTROL NO 90/006676

PATENT NO. 5,438,611

ART UNI 3992

Enclosed is a copy of the latest communication from the United States Patent and Trademark Office in the above identified ex parte reexamination proceeding (37 CFR 1.550(f)).

Where this copy is supplied after the reply by requester, 37 CFR 1.535, or the time for filing a reply has passed, no submission on behalf of the ex parte reexamination requester will be acknowledged or considered (37 CFR 1.550(g)).

Office Action in Ex Parte Reexamination	Control No. 90/006,676	Patent Under Reexamination 5438611	
	Examiner Scott L. Weaver	Art Unit 3992	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

- a ☒ Responsive to the communication(s) filed on 2/28/06 and 5/22/06. b ☒ This action is made FINAL.
c ☐ A statement under 37 CFR 1.530 has not been received from the patent owner.

A shortened statutory period for response to this action is set to expire 2 month(s) from the mailing date of this letter. Failure to respond within the period for response will result in termination of the proceeding and issuance of an *ex parte* reexamination certificate in accordance with this action. 37 CFR 1.550(d). **EXTENSIONS OF TIME ARE GOVERNED BY 37 CFR 1.550(c).** If the period for response specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a response within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.

Part I THE FOLLOWING ATTACHMENT(S) ARE PART OF THIS ACTION:

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited by Examiner, PTO-892. 3. ☐ Interview Summary, PTO-474.
2. ☒ Information Disclosure Statement, PTO-1449. 4. ☐ _____.

Part II SUMMARY OF ACTION

- 1a. ☒ Claims 1-80 and 221-274 are subject to reexamination.
1b. ☐ Claims _____ are not subject to reexamination.
2. ☒ Claims 81-220 have been canceled in the present reexamination proceeding.
3. ☐ Claims _____ are patentable and/or confirmed.
4. ☒ Claims 1-80 and 221-274 are rejected.
5. ☐ Claims _____ are objected to.
6. ☐ The drawings, filed on _____ are acceptable.
7. ☐ The proposed drawing correction, filed on _____ has been (7a) ☐ approved (7b) ☐ disapproved.
8. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of the priority claim under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the certified copies have

- 1 ☐ been received.
2 ☐ not been received.
3 ☐ been filed in Application No. _____.
4 ☐ been filed in reexamination Control No. _____.
5 ☐ been received by the International Bureau in PCT application No. _____.

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

9. ☐ Since the proceeding appears to be in condition for issuance of an *ex parte* reexamination certificate except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte* Quayle, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.
10. ☐ Other: _____

cc: Requester (if third party requester)



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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
90/006,677	06/24/2003	5479472		5442

803 7590 08/22/2006

STURM & FIX LLP
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SUITE 1213
DES MOINES, IA 50309-4076

EXAMINER

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8/22/06

THIRD PARTY REQUESTER'S CORRESPONDENCE ADDRESS

Novak Druce & Quigg
1300 Eye Street NW
400 East Tower
Washington, DC 20005

EX PARTE REEXAMINATION COMMUNICATION TRANSMITTAL FORM

REEXAMINATION CONTROL NO 90/006677

PATENT NO. 5,479,472

ART UNI 3992

Enclosed is a copy of the latest communication from the United States Patent and Trademark Office in the above identified ex parte reexamination proceeding (37 CFR 1.550(f)).

Where this copy is supplied after the reply by requester, 37 CFR 1.535, or the time for filing a reply has passed, no submission on behalf of the ex parte reexamination requester will be acknowledged or considered (37 CFR 1.550(g)).

Office Action in Ex Parte Reexamination	Control No. 90/006,677	Patent Under Reexamination 5479472	
	Examiner Scott L. Weaver	Art Unit 3992	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

- a ☒ Responsive to the communication(s) filed on 1/30/06 and 5/22/06. b ☒ This action is made FINAL.
c ☐ A statement under 37 CFR 1.530 has not been received from the patent owner.

A shortened statutory period for response to this action is set to expire 2 month(s) from the mailing date of this letter. Failure to respond within the period for response will result in termination of the proceeding and issuance of an *ex parte* reexamination certificate in accordance with this action. 37 CFR 1.550(d). **EXTENSIONS OF TIME ARE GOVERNED BY 37 CFR 1.550(c).** If the period for response specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a response within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.

Part I THE FOLLOWING ATTACHMENT(S) ARE PART OF THIS ACTION:

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited by Examiner, PTO-892. | 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary, PTO-474. |
| 2. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement, PTO-1449. | 4. <input type="checkbox"/> _____. |

Part II SUMMARY OF ACTION

- 1a. ☒ Claims 1-62 and 112-157 are subject to reexamination.
1b. ☐ Claims _____ are not subject to reexamination.
2. ☒ Claims 63-111 have been canceled in the present reexamination proceeding.
3. ☐ Claims _____ are patentable and/or confirmed.
4. ☒ Claims 1-62 and 112-157 are rejected.
5. ☐ Claims _____ are objected to.
6. ☐ The drawings, filed on _____ are acceptable.
7. ☐ The proposed drawing correction, filed on _____ has been (7a) ☐ approved (7b) ☐ disapproved.
8. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of the priority claim under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the certified copies have
1 ☐ been received.
2 ☐ not been received.
3 ☐ been filed in Application No. _____.
4 ☐ been filed in reexamination Control No. _____.
5 ☐ been received by the International Bureau in PCT application No. _____.
* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
9. ☐ Since the proceeding appears to be in condition for issuance of an *ex parte* reexamination certificate except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte* Quayle, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.
10. ☐ Other: _____

cc: Requester (if third party requester)